

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
CONSERVATION PRACTICE STANDARD**

USE EXCLUSION

(Acre)

CODE 472

DEFINITION

Excluding animals, people or vehicles from an area.

PURPOSE

To prevent, restrict, or control access to an area to maintain or improve the quantity and quality of natural resources or minimize liability and human health concerns.

CONDITIONS WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES

On all land uses where permanent or temporary use exclusion is needed.

CRITERIA

Barriers shall consist of either natural and/or artificial structures such as logs, vegetation, earth-fill, boulders, fences, gates, electronic and sonic devices, or signs.

Barriers must be adequate to prevent, restrict, or control use by targeted vehicles, animals or people and not be a safety hazard.

Barrier life expectancy must be adequate for the intended purpose.

Timing and exclusion periods must be described to accomplish intended purposes.

To prevent accidents associated with the use of vehicles, barriers associated with roads and

trails shall be adequately marked to safeguard human safety and minimize the risk of liability.

Comply with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations during the installation, operation and maintenance of this practice.

CONSIDERATIONS

Assess potential landowner and user liability before installing barriers.

Public use may be an issue in areas where public right of access has previously been established by past use and law.

Barrier type and design should account for and minimize impact to impair wildlife health and animal movement.

Barriers should account for and minimize public safety activities such as fire control.

PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

Specifications for applying this practice shall be prepared for each site and recorded using approved specification sheets, job sheets, technical notes, and narrative statements in the conservation plan, or other acceptable documentation.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Barriers will be periodically inspected and repairs performed as needed.